

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am signing Senate Bill 391 because it ensures the immediate medical treatment and timely payment for individuals injured by the improper application of agricultural pesticides. It also squarely places the financial burden to pay for acute medical costs on those businesses that create the harm.

SB 391 authorizes the Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) and County Agricultural Commissioners to require a violator of the pesticide laws to reimburse the medical costs of individuals who suffer acute injuries and illness caused by agricultural pesticide use violations. I am concerned that the liability provisions in SB 391 may be viewed as overly broad and may lead to the inability for some entities to obtain insurance. These provisions need to be addressed in follow up legislation to remediate these unintended consequences.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger